

7/10/2012

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Plains Unit of the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation is developing plans for a proposed timber sale. The proposed sale will be known as the Thompson Face Timber Sale. The proposed sale is located approximately 25 air miles northwest of Plains, MT in the Thompson River drainage in the Common Schools Trust Section 26, Township 24 North, Range 27 West. Douglas fir beetle is present and active in the timber stand and mortality is evident. The sale is in the earliest stages of planning, but would most likely involve a seed tree and shelterwood harvest with cable and ground based logging systems. The sale may require new and/or reconstruction of roads and would include some minor improvements on existing roads. This sale would likely sell in the fall of 2012 and is projected to generate approximately 2.0 million board feet of timber.

This sale is being considered to generate revenue the Common Schools Trust Fund, minimize the timber value loss due to insect and disease activity, to reduce excessive fuel loading and the related risk of wildfire, and to reestablish and promote timber types historically found in these areas.

As an adjacent landowner or interested party, we request your input regarding this project. Your concerns and comments are needed to assist the DNRC in planning, analyzing, and implementing this project. We would appreciate your response by Friday, August 10, 2012 so that we may incorporate it into our planning process. Please send comments to: DNRC, Plains Unit, PO Box 219, Plains, MT 59859 or by email to dolsen@mt.gov or by phone at 406-826-4723.

Sincerely,

Dave Olsen
Forest Management Supervisor
Plains Unit
Montana DNRC